

No Change in Class. ☒

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Class. Changed to: TS S C

Next Review Date:

Auth.: HR 70-3

EYES ONLY

By: 015

13 May 1955

MEMORANDUM TO: Deputy Director (Support)

FROM : Emergency Planning Officer

**SUBJECT : Status of Planning for Participation in the
15, 16 and 17 June 1955 Exercise (Operation
Alert 1955).**

Set forth below is a brief resume of the status of planning for participation in the 15, 16 and 17 June exercise by various elements and organizations affected thereby:

1. The Department of State.

The emergency force of the Department of State consists of 1300 members (out of a total strength of 4500). I was informed yesterday by Col. Harold O. Deakin and Mr. Howard J. Trees, Special Assistants to the Secretary of State, that they plan as of yesterday's date that 600 of the emergency force members will go to [] and participate in the exercise. They stated that command, communications, and policy direction will be shifted to the emergency relocation site during the three-day period, even though business also will be transacted here, as well. They anticipated (but could not forecast with certainty) that either Secretary Dulles or Under-Secretary Hoover will operate from []

They expect that the seven members of the Policy Planning Staff will go to [] as will representatives from their four major area subdivisions and their International Organizations Division, as well as representatives from all of the support elements. Twenty-five key members of the staff of the Special Assistant for Intelligence (designated as the "R" Area), including Mr. Park Armstrong himself, will operate at the relocation site.

They showed me the memorandum of record of the Cabinet meeting held on 22 April 1955, attended by Mr. Hoover in the absence of Mr. Dulles. A large part of the meeting was devoted to an expression of the President's wishes on the mid-June test. They permitted me to make a copy of one particularly pertinent paragraph of the memorandum, which I have set forth

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below. (NOTE: This bears the special security classification of "Confidential - Privileged," which is accorded all records of Cabinet meetings, and they permitted me to copy the material upon the condition that we would respect this classification accordingly and restrict distribution to Mr. Dulles and ourselves.)

"Mr. Hoover also emphasized to the other members of the cabinet, and particularly to the representatives of the other sensitive agencies, that our continuing operations were dependent on uninterrupted and close communications and liaison with these other agencies; and he requested assurance that these other agencies would undertake participation in the exercise on a scale equivalent to our own and that their senior officers would be available to our senior officers for immediate consultation in the event of need during the test period. He received such assurance."

At a conference which I had this morning with Mr. John F. Killea, Executive Director of the "R" Area, and members of his staff I was given a list of names of the participants from the "R" Area. In addition, they furnished me with the list of suggested joint CIA-State Department activities which will be carried on by one of the three large subdivisions of the "R" Area. The other two subdivisions have not as yet submitted their reports, although they expect them to do so by the middle of next week. Mr. Killea stated that the State Department plans to do at least one bona fide Intelligence Estimate during the three-day period, and they are extremely desirous of receiving the same type and degree of CIA support that they normally receive in preparing such an estimate. He pointed out that they would especially like to see appropriate elements of OCD, ONE deployed to the site. STATSPEC

2. The Department of Defense.

Plans of the Department of Defense for participation are incomplete at this date, except that positive determination has been made that the Joint Chiefs of Staff and their retinue, accompanied by the Joint Staff in its entirety, 527 all told, will operate from the relocation site at Camp Ritchie during the three-day period.

3. The National Security Council.

Consideration of the National Security Council plans breaks down into three areas, as follows:

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a. The Council itself. Since the Council is made up of certain statutory members who are the heads of departments and agencies, augmented by others especially designated by the President, no determination has been made as yet as to the place or the manner in which it will transact business during the three-day period.

b. The Planning Board. No decision has been made as to the place and manner in which the Planning Board will transact business during the three-day period.

c. The NSC Staff. The regularly constituted relocation site of the NSC Staff (headed by Mr. James Lay, Jr., Executive Secretary) is at our relocation site at the

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[redacted] Up to this point I have been participating in planning along these lines with Mr. Lay and with Messrs. J. Patrick Coyne and A. Russell Ash. All of this has been along the lines of their sending representatives to [redacted] as soon as they are in a position to know the extent to which other agencies whose heads comprise the Council plan to participate.

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However, something occurred Wednesday afternoon which may very well change this. I learned that a meeting of representatives of only those agencies which comprise the Executive Office of the President (the National Security Council Staff, the Office of Defense Mobilization, the Council of Economic Advisers, the Bureau of the Budget, the Planning and Coordination Staff, and Governor Stassen in his new capacity) was held that day under the chairmanship of General Paul of the Office of Defense Mobilization. At that meeting it was indicated that the relocation forces of all those agencies would operate at High Point during the test rather than from their selected relocation sites. This is a radical departure from all previous planning on the subject and has created considerable confusion. I learned privately that there are some indications that this decision may be rescinded within the next few days.

4. The Chief Executive and The White House.

No announcement has been made as to the place and manner of participation of the President and his immediate staff. There is every indication that this information is being withheld from the planners deliberately in order to lend a note of realism to the exercise.

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5. The Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Plans for participation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation are incomplete at this date. However, our own plan calls for taking Mr. Sam Papich, FBI liaison representative, along with us to the [] in the event of a relocation, and provisions have been made to house him there as part of the roster of the Security Office. For the purpose of this exercise, Col. Edwards and Mr. Papich have both expressed the wish to have FBI liaison conducted through Mr. Papich as resident liaison representative at []

6. The Bureau of the Budget.

I am not aware of the exact extent to which the Bureau of the Budget proposes to participate (although I have heard in general terms that they expect to participate to a fairly great extent). However, Mr. Saunders has advised me of a request by the Bureau of the Budget to have their accredited liaison representative who normally deals with Mr. Saunders' office participate in the exercise at our site. He also informed me that this representative enjoys our full security clearance. I stated to Mr. Saunders that I can see no objection to his participating there if Mr. Saunders wants him.

7. The Central Intelligence Agency.

a. The DD/I Area.

On Monday, 2 May 1955 (the first business day following the 29 April 1955 meeting at ODM, at which the basic guidance for the mid-June test was furnished) I called upon Mr. [] and alerted him to the general assumptions and scope of the problem, and acquainted him with such facts as were then known to us. Since that time I have kept him apprised of developments as they have taken place, to the end that he could keep the Assistant Directors in the DD/I area advised for planning purposes. As matters now stand, in the light of the list which I received from Mr. Killea of the State Department this morning, I have made an appointment to call upon Mr. [] and turn over the list to him this afternoon. When the remaining information comes to hand next week I shall, in turn, pass it on to him.

b. The DD/P Area.

On 29 April 1955 I called [] of DD/P-PPC and advised him of the decision made regarding total relocation

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of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. On 3 May 1955 I conferred with Mr. [] and advised him of all developments on the subject, with the request that he alert the area divisions and senior staffs in the DD/P area, in addition to the PPC staff. All further information which comes to hand will be passed on to Mr. []. I believe, for example, that DD/P will be interested in the plans and location of the Policy Planning Staff of the State Department, as well as the area desks, during the exercise.

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c. The DD/S Area.

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Within the DD/S area I have kept the Director of Communications advised as this matter has been developing, through the medium of taking with me to all meetings Mr.

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[] (shortly to assume his new duties at the [], is accredited to me by [] as a communications adviser. This morning, in view of the information just received from the Department of State, I called upon and conferred with [] and brought them abreast of the present status of things.

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I have requested the Office of Personnel (through []) and the Office of the Comptroller (through Mr. Saunders himself) to take under study the administrative and fiscal problems (travel orders and reimbursement, etc.) which might be posed by relocation of a portion of the emergency force during the three-day period.

I have kept the Director of Security apprised of all developments as they have occurred, from the general point of view and also in terms of the special security considerations involved.

8. The Director of Central Intelligence.

The question of what specific roles should be enacted by Mr. Dulles and General Cabell still remains unanswered at this time. My last inquiry on this point was made at 4:30 P.M. yesterday to Mr. John F. Grady, who is in charge of planning for the exercise for the Office of Defense Mobilization and as such is Chairman of the Interdepartmental Planning Committee. Mr. Grady stated that in all probability the heads of departments and agencies would be requested to report to High Point as in the past. However, he pointed out that the matter was still

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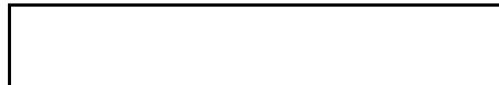
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open to question but he hoped to have in my hands by noon today a written pronouncement on the subject which would constitute a decision. This has not as yet been received. Privately, I would not bank too heavily upon this decision until we do receive written word on the subject. I have heard through NSC Staff channels considerable information which would support the conclusion that the heads of agencies might be requested to report to their own relocation sites in the first instance, and perhaps later convene at High Point. There is so much question and speculation on this point that I do not feel we are in a position to advise Mr. Dulles with precision at this time. I shall apprise you as soon as I receive definitive word.

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